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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISR. 17 September 1953

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SUBJECT Proposed Iron and Steel Works near Schwedt at the Oder River Region

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(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. To make good the constant deficiency of iron and steel in East Germany, the SOG in Berlin-Karlshorst ordered the Central Committee of the SED in Berlin to induce the central designing office of the Ministry for Metallurgy and Ore Mining to make designs for a large iron and steel plant at the large Oder River bend near Schwedt.
2. The new iron and steel works were allegedly scheduled to have 8 blast furnaces each with a daily capacity of 1,000 tons of pig iron and 20 low furnaces with a daily capacity of 70 tons of foundry pig iron. Other plans provided for only 8 blast furnaces with a daily capacity of 1,000 tons of pig iron and no low furnaces.

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Comment. If the information contained in the present report is true, the new iron and steel works would produce about 2,400,000 tons of pig iron and 420,000 tons of foundry pig iron per year when completed. Since a previous report indicated that EKO, EWW and Max Huetten, the three pig iron producing works, were scheduled to produce a total of 1,615,000 tons of pig iron and 420,000 tons of foundry pig iron in 1955, the total East German production of pig iron and foundry pig iron would amount to 4,015,000 tons and 840,000 tons after the Schwedt iron and steel works have been put into operation. An increase of the pig iron capacity to the extent stated in the present report seems unlikely even if the use of scrap in the production of steel decreases in the years to come, as the total East German raw steel production is scheduled to amount to at most 4,170,000 tons in 1955. The erection of the Schwedt iron and steel works, if carried out, would prove that, in the economic field, the East German SED government directly counteracts its alleged political aim of German reunification as it must be doubted that this iron and steel works would be a paying enterprise in a re-united Germany.

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